

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 EB-08 FRB-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-07 CEA-01 /081 W

-----113418 060430Z /11

R 050924Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9069

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 4484

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EFIN, ETRD, SY

SUBJECT: BOYCOTT LANGUAGE IN IBRD-FINANCED CONTRACT

1. U.S. FIRM, ENGINEERING SCIENCES, SELECTED FOR CONSULTING CONTRACT (ALEPPO AND LATTAKIA SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE TREATMENT) FINANCED BY IBRD HAS BEEN INFORMED BY SYRIAN AUTHORITIES THAT FINAL CONTRACT FOR U.S. DOLS 1.2 MILLION STUDY MUST CONTAIN BOYCOTT LANGUAGE UNACCEPTABLE UNDER U.S. LAW (NEGATIVE CERTIFICATION WITH SECONDARY AND TERTIARY PROVISIONS). NEAREST COMPETITORS ARE U.K. FIRMS WHO HAVE NO TROUBLE ACCEPTING BOYCOTT LANGUAGE.

2. ENGINEERING SCIENCES REP, MR. C. LARRICK, SURPRISED AT MINHOUSING AND UTILITIES INSISTENCE ON BOYCOTT LANGUAGE SINCE HIS COMPANY HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED IBRD-FINANCED PROJECT (ALEPPO WATER SYSTEM FEASIBILITY STUDY) WITHOUT ANY REQUIREMENT FOR BOYCOTT LANGUAGE.

3. EMBASSY AND ENGINEERING SCIENCES SUSPECT UK COMPETITORS OR THEIR LOCAL AGENTS MAY BE URGING STRICT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPLICATION BOYCOTT CLAUSES TO KNOCK U.S. FIRMS OUT OF COMPETITION. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IS HARMFUL PRECEDENT TO PERMIT SYRIAN AUTHORITIES DISCRIMINATE DE FACTO AGAINST U.S. FIRMS ON IBRD CONTRACT THROUGH USE OF BOYCOTT LANGUAGE, PARTICULARLY GIVEN CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEMS IBRD AND SYRIAN SSA NOW ENCOUNTERING.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT WEIGH IN FORCEFULLY  
WITH IBRD TO ENLIST ITS SUPPORT IN REMOVING UNACCEPTABLE  
BOYCOTT LANGUAGE. URGENT ACTION REQUIRED BECAUSE  
ENGINEERING SCIENCES DOUBTS IT CAN DELAY MORE THAN  
15 DAYS BEFORE SYRIANS TURN TO UK FIRM. EMBASSY  
WILL MAKE PARALLEL REPRESENTATIONS TO MINECON.  
PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014